

## CLAIMS

1. A theft prevention device for vehicles employing a powered seat system to automatically control the position of a vehicle seat movably situated on parallel guide rails to enable the seat to move forwardly or rearwardly, wherein the vehicle seat includes a seat member and a lumbar support member, which move independent of one another, the theft prevention device comprising:

    a security module integrated with the powered seat system, the security module being programmed to instruct the powered seat system to move the vehicle seat between an original position and a forward security position with the seat member and lumbar support member moved forward to prevent a thief from accessing the passenger compartment of the vehicle; and

    a gearing mechanism linking the seat member and the lumbar support member for controlled forward movement of the lumbar support member to a fully forward position flush with a forward most position within a passenger compartment of the vehicle;

    wherein selective actuation of the security module causes the security module to instruct the powered seat system to move the seat member forward along the guide rails and rotate the lumbar support member fully forward from its original position to a security position flush with the forward most position within a passenger compartment of the vehicle and causes the security module to instruct the powered seat system to move the seat member and lumbar support member back to their original positions.

2. The theft prevention device according to claim 1, further including a trigger switch linked to the security module for sending a trigger event signal instructing the security module when an individual leaves the vehicle or when an individual returns to the vehicle, the trigger switch sending a first trigger event signal to the security module when an individual leaves the vehicle and a second trigger event signal when the individual returns to the vehicle;

wherein initiation of the first trigger event signal causes the security module to instruct the powered seat system to move the seat member forward along the guide rails and rotate the lumbar support member fully forward from its original position to a forward security position flush with the forward most position within a passenger compartment of the vehicle, and initiation of the second trigger event signal causes the security module to instruct the powered seat system to move the seat member and lumbar support member back to their original positions.

3. The theft prevention device according to claim 2, wherein the trigger switch is associated with a door of the vehicle.

4. The theft prevention device according to claim 3, wherein the first trigger event signal is initiated upon closing of the vehicle door after the ignition has been turned off.

5. The theft prevention device according to claim 3, wherein the second trigger event signal is initiated upon the opening of the vehicle door.

6. The theft prevention device according to claim 1, wherein the gearing mechanism facilitates movement of the lumbar support member flush with either a steering wheel or dashboard of a vehicle.

7. The theft prevent device according to claim 1, wherein the gearing mechanism includes a series of teeth permitting movement of the lumbar support member to a fully forward position flush with the forward most position within a passenger compartment of the vehicle.
8. The theft prevention device according to claim 1, wherein the gearing mechanism includes a lumbar gear with teeth over an arc sufficient to facilitate full forward rotation of the lumbar support member to a fully forward position flush with the forward most position within a passenger compartment of the vehicle.
9. A vehicle provided with a theft prevention device comprising:
  - a powered seat system to automatically control the position of a vehicle seat movably situated on parallel guide rails to enable the seat to move forwardly or rearwardly, wherein the vehicle seat includes a seat member and a lumbar support member, which move independent of one another, the theft prevention device comprising:
    - a security module integrated with the powered seat system, the security module being programmed to instruct the powered seat system to move the vehicle seat between an original position and a forward security position with the seat member and lumbar support member moved forward to prevent a thief from accessing the passenger compartment of the vehicle; and
    - a gearing mechanism linking the seat member and the lumbar support member for controlled forward movement of the lumbar support member to a fully forward position flush with a forward most position within a passenger compartment of the vehicle;
  - wherein selective actuation of the security module causes the security module to instruct the powered seat system to move the seat member forward along the guide rails and rotate the lumbar support member fully forward from its original position to a security position flush with the forward

most position within a passenger compartment of the vehicle and causes the security module to instruct the powered seat system to move the seat member and lumbar support member back to their original positions.

10. The theft prevention device according to claim 9, further including a trigger switch linked to the security module for sending a trigger event signal instructing the security module when an individual leaves the vehicle or when an individual returns to the vehicle, the trigger switch sending a first trigger event signal to the security module when an individual leaves the vehicle and a second trigger event signal when the individual returns to the vehicle;

wherein initiation of the first trigger event signal causes the security module to instruct the powered seat system to move the seat member forward along the guide rails and rotate the lumbar support member fully forward from its original position to a forward security position flush with the forward most position within a passenger compartment of the vehicle, and initiation of the second trigger event signal causes the security module to instruct the powered seat system to move the seat member and lumbar support member back to their original positions.

11. The vehicle according to claim 10, wherein the security module includes a security controller instructing the powered seat system.

12. The vehicle according to claim 10, wherein the trigger switch is associated with a door of the vehicle.

13. The vehicle according to claim 12, wherein the first trigger event signal is initiated upon closing of the vehicle door after the ignition has been turned off.

14. The vehicle according to claim 12, wherein the second trigger event signal is initiated upon the opening of the vehicle door.

15. The vehicle according to claim 10, wherein the powered seat system is a seat patterning system.

16. The vehicle according to claim 9, wherein the gearing mechanism facilitates movement of the lumbar support member flush with either a steering wheel or dashboard of a vehicle.

17. The vehicle according to claim 9, wherein the gearing mechanism includes a series of teeth permitting movement of the lumbar support member to a fully forward position flush with the forward most position within a passenger compartment of the vehicle.

18. The vehicle according to claim 9, wherein the gearing mechanism includes a lumbar gear with teeth over an arc sufficient to facilitate full forward rotation of the lumbar support member to a fully forward position flush with the forward most position within a passenger compartment of the vehicle.

19. A theft prevention device for vehicles employing a powered seat system to automatically control the position of a vehicle seat movably situated on parallel guide rails to enable the seat to move forwardly or rearwardly, wherein the vehicle seat includes a seat member and a lumbar support member, which move independent of one another, the theft prevention device comprising:

    a security module integrated with the powered seat system, the security module being programmed to instruct the powered seat system to move the vehicle seat between an original position and a forward security position with the seat member and lumbar support member moved forward to prevent a thief from accessing the passenger compartment of the vehicle; and

    a trigger switch linked to the security module for sending a trigger event signal instructing the security module when an individual leaves the vehicle or when an individual returns to the vehicle, the trigger switch sending a first trigger event signal to the security module when an individual leaves the vehicle and a second trigger event signal when the individual returns to the vehicle;

    wherein initiation of the first trigger event signal causes the security module to instruct the powered seat system to move the seat member forward along the guide rails and rotate the lumbar support member forward from its original position to a forward security position, and initiation of the second trigger event signal causes the security module to instruct the powered seat system to move the seat member and lumbar support member back to their original positions; and

    the security module further including a power switch connected to a vehicle electric power system for selectively connecting or disconnecting power from the vehicle electric power system circuit, whereby, when the seat member and lumbar support member are in the forward security position, the power switch is disconnected from the vehicle electric power system circuit thereby preventing a thief from activating the power switch during a break in of the vehicle.

20. The theft prevention device according to claim 19, wherein the security module includes a security controller instructing the powered seat system.

21. The theft prevention device according to claim 19, where the trigger switch is associated with a door of the vehicle.

22. The theft prevention device according to claim 21, wherein the first trigger event signal is initiated upon closing of the vehicle door after the ignition has been turned off.

23. The theft prevention device according to claim 21, wherein the second trigger event signal is initiated upon the opening of the vehicle door.

24. A vehicle provided with a theft prevention device comprising:

    a powered seat system to automatically control the position of a vehicle seat movably situated on parallel guide rails to enable the seat to move forwardly or rearwardly, wherein the vehicle seat includes a seat member and a lumbar support member, which move independent of one another, the theft prevention device comprising:

        a security module integrated with the powered seat system, the security module being programmed to instruct the powered seat system to move the vehicle seat between an original position and a forward security position with the seat member and lumbar support member moved forward to prevent a thief from accessing the passenger compartment of the vehicle; and

        a trigger switch linked to the security module for sending a trigger event signal instructing the security module when an individual leaves the vehicle or when an individual returns to the vehicle, the trigger switch sending a first trigger event signal to the security module when an individual leaves the vehicle and a second trigger event signal when the individual returns to the vehicle;

        wherein initiation of the first trigger event signal causes the security module to instruct the powered seat system to move the seat member forward along the guide rails and rotate the lumbar support member forward from its original position to a forward security position, and initiation of the second trigger event signal causes the security module to instruct the powered seat system to move the seat member and lumbar support member back to their original positions; and

        the security module further including a power switch connected to a vehicle electric power system for selectively connecting or disconnecting power from the vehicle electric power system circuit, whereby, when the seat member and lumbar support member are in the forward security position, the power switch is disconnected from the vehicle electric power system circuit thereby

preventing a thief from activating the power switch during a break in of the vehicle.

25. The vehicle according to claim 24, wherein the security module includes a security controller instructing the powered seat system.

26. The vehicle according to claim 24, where the trigger switch is associated with a door of the vehicle.

27. The vehicle according to claim 26, wherein the first trigger event signal is initiated upon closing of the vehicle door after the ignition has been turned off.

28. The vehicle according to claim 24, wherein the second trigger event signal is initiated upon the opening of the vehicle door.

29. The vehicle according to claim 24, wherein the powered seat system is a seat patterning system.